

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 11280 081626Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /072 W
-----106309 081723Z /43

P 081617Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5938
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL BELIZE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, UK, GT, BH

SUBJECT: GUATEMALA-BELIZE DISPUTE: UK REACTION

1. DESPITE SENSATIONAL TREATMENT OF HMG'S JULY 7 RE-
INFORCEMENT OF ITS GARRISON IN BELIZE BY THE TABLOID
PRESS, POLITICAL AND MEDIA REACTION HAS BEEN STRIKINGLY
LOW KEY.
2. GOVERNMENT MINISTERS WITH WHOM WE HAVE SPOKEN HAVE
STRESSED DEFENSIVE NATURE OF REINFORCEMENT DECISION,
WHILE EXPRESSING THEIR HOPE THAT IT WOULD DETER ANY
PRECIPITATE GUATEMALAN ACTION. MPS AND POLITICAL
LEADERS HAVE SHOWN ONLY THE MOST CURSORY INTEREST IN
THE SITUATION.
3. MEDIA TREATMENT HAS GENERALLY BEEN RESPONSIBLE AND
NON-ALARMIST, THOUGH STORY OF REINFORCEMENT AND HMG'S
STATEMENT RECEIVED PROMINENT MENTION ON TV AND RADIO.
THE "QUALITY" PRESS CARRIED THE STORY ON THE FRONT PAGE,
BUT TABLOIDS TOOK A TYPICALLY SENSATIONAL LINE, THOUGH
LIBERALLY LACED WITH HUMOR. FOR EXAMPLE, DAILY EXPRESS

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PAGE 02 LONDON 11280 081626Z

HEADLINED "GUARDS TO RESCUE", AND DAILY MIRROR, WHICH
CHARACTERIZED BELIZE AS "THE CHEWING GUM COLONY",
HEADLINED "WAR, BY GUM:".

BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTES, PRESS COMMENTS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON11280
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770243-0430
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770778/aaaacpue.tel
Line Count: 60
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1cdb146f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: PBOR, UK, GT, BH
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